

## Message Text

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15

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /027 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ANP:MAGMICHAUD:MHS

APPROVED BY EA/ANP:JFKNOWLES

EA/P:ARSEN

----- 023165

R 182331Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY

AMCONSUL BRISBANE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AS, US, PP

SUBJECT: INCIDENT INVOLVING AMERICAN JOURNALIST

REF: CANBERRA A-75, MAY 14, 1974

1. REFAIR REPORTED VISIT OF AMERICAN JOURNALIST GEORGE WELLER TO CANBERRA. (WELLER WHO WAS ASSAULTED IN DECEMBER 1973 IN BUKA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, WHILE DOING RESEARCH ON COAST WATCHERS, FEELS THAT NOT ENOUGH WAS DONE BY AUSTRALIAN AUTHORITIES OR AMERICAN EMBASSY.) REFAIR REPORTS THAT NICHOLSON OF DFA STATED HE WOULD GET A REPORT FROM APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES IN PNG ON WHY THEY HAD NOT FOLLOWED UP ADDITIONAL CHARGES WELLER MADE. REFAIR ALSO REPORTED THAT EMBASSY WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH DFA AND HAD AGREED TO FORWARD NICHOLSON'S REPORT TO WELLER WHEN RECEIVED.

2. DEPARTMENT HAS NOW RECEIVED INQUIRY FROM US NEWSPAPER EDITOR BASED ON REPORT OF THIS INCIDENT IN THE BULLETIN OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA. IN ORDER TO REPLY  
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FULLY, DEPARTMENT NEEDS TO KNOW IF NICHOLSON RECEIVED RE-

PORT AND IF EMBASSY FORWARDED IT TO WELLER. ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON ACTIONS TAKEN BY GOA OR EMBASSY WOULD BE USEFUL. INGERSOLL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CollinP0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE254232  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** MAGMICAUD:MHS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740333-0837  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741133/aaaabbve.tel  
**Line Count:** 64  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** CANBERRA A-75, MAY 14, 1974  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CollinP0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INCIDENT INVOLVING AMERICAN JOURNALIST  
**TAGS:** CASC, AS, US, PP, (WELLER, GEORGE)  
**To:** CANBERRA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005